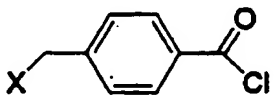
wherein X is halo or dialkylamino; W is OH or COY, wherein Y is halo, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, aryloxy substituted by an electron-withdrawing group, alkanoyloxy, or aroyloxy; m is an integer from 0 to 2, inclusive; n is an integer from 0 to 2, inclusive; and Z is a divalent aryl, cycloalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl group. The derivatized carboxylic acid substituent, -COY, reacts with a hydroxyl, CO_2H, amino, mercapto, or enolizable carbonyl substituent on the active ingredient, forming an ester, carboxylic acid anhydride, amide, thioester, or enol ester respectively. When W is OH, the hydroxyl substituent reacts with a CO_2H substituent on the active ingredient forming an ester.

Most preferably, the linker is a compound having the following structure:



When X is a halo substituent, the linker forms a covalent bond with a dialkylamino-substituted polymer, e.g., poly[(4-dialkylaminomethyl)styrene] or poly[(3-dialkylaminomethyl)styrene], by alkylating the dialkylamino group to produce a quaternary ammonium salt. In this case, an alkyl halide is then optionally added to produce a quaternary ammonium salt at each unreacted dialkylamino substituent. In another embodiment, the polymer is treated first with an amount of alkyl halide sufficient to produce a quaternary ammonium salt on only a portion of the dialkylamino substituents, and then the linker is attached to substantially all of the remaining dialkylamino substituents. When X is a dialkylamino substituent, ~~the linker forms a covalent bond with a halomethyl~~ the linker forms a covalent bond with a halomethyl